

Stated Meeting, May 4.

Present, twenty-one members.

Dr. PATTERSON, Vice President, in the Chair.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

- O Auxiliador da Industria Nacional. Rio Janeiro, 1837.—*From Mr. J. S. Rebello.*
- Journal of the Asiatic Society. Edited by James Prinseps, Sec. Nos. 61 to 67. Calcutta, 1837.—*From the Society.*
- Address to the Royal Society, at its Anniversary Meeting, November 30, 1837. By the Duke of Sussex, President. London, 1837.—*From Mr. William Vaughan.*
- Transactions of the Royal Society. Parts I. & II. for 1837. London, 1838.—*From the Society.*
- Catalogue of Members of the Royal Society, November 30, 1837. London, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Astronomical Observations, made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in the year 1836. By George Biddel Airy, Astron. Roy. London, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Appendix to the above. London, 1837. *From the same.*
- Proceedings of the Royal Society, Nos. 29 & 30. London, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Abstract of Papers in the Transactions of the Royal Society. Vol. III. From 1830 to 1837. London, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Defence of the Resolution for omitting Pannizzi's Bibliographical Notes from the Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Society. London, 1838. *From the same.*
- Mémoires couronnés par l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles Lettres de Bruxelles. Tome XI. Brussels, 1837.—*From the Academy.*
- Nouveaux Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles Lettres de Bruxelles. Tome XIV. Brussels, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Annales de l'Observatoire de Bruxelles. Par le Directeur A. Quetelet. Tome I. Deuxième Partie. Brussels, 1837.—*From the same.*

- Bulletin de la Science Générale, Nos. 5 to 9. Brussels, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Report of the Sixth Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Bristol in August 1836. London, 1837.—*From the Association.*
- Speech on the Judicial Tenure, delivered in the Convention of Pennsylvania for revising the Constitution. By J. Hopkinson. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- Speech in the Convention on the same subject. By Charles Chauncey. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Hon. J. Hopkinson.*
- Speech in the Convention on Banks and Currency. By Thomas P. Cope. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From J. R. Tyson, Esq.*
- Tenth Report of the House of Refuge, with an Appendix. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From J. J. Barclay, Esq.*
- Le Sourd-Muet et l'Aveugle. Journal Mensuel, par l'Abbe Carton. Brussels, 1837.—*From the Editor.*
- Lucani Pharsalia, cum Notis Hugonis Grotii et Ricardi Bentleii. Glasgow, 1816. *From J. F. Fisher, Esq.*
- M. Valerii Martialis Epigrammata. Leipsic. No date.—*From the same.*
- C. Crispus Sallustius. No imprint.—*From the same.*
- Antiquities of Greece. By John Robinson. London, 1807.—*From Mr. John Vaughan.*
- Roman Antiquities. By Alexander Adam. With Notes by P. Wilson. New York, 1819.—*From the same.*
- Compendium of Ancient Geography. By M. D'Anville. Translated from the French, with Maps, &c., by John Horsley. Two Vols. New York, 1814. *From the same.*
- Formula for the Announcement of the principal Phases of the Annular Eclipse of the Sun, September 18, 1838. By E. O. Kendal. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From Mr. S. C. Walker.*
- Arte de los Metales, &c. Por Alv. Alonso Barba. Lima, 1817.—*From Mr. J. B. Quinby.*
- Essai sur la Vie et les Ouvrages de M. S. F. Schoell. Par A. P. de la Forest. Paris, 1835.—*From the Author.*
- Catalogue de Plantes cultivées par J. Sisley-Vandael et Cie. Paris, 1838.—*From the Publishers.*

Pursuant to appointment, Dr. Horner read a necrological notice of Dr. Philip Syng Physick, late a member of the Society. Dr. Horner having expressed a wish to make the same

public, permission was granted to him to withdraw it from the files of the Society for publication.

Dr. Patterson read a letter from Professor Henry, of Princeton, dated May 4, 1838, announcing that, in recent experiments, he has produced directly from ordinary electricity, currents by induction analogous to those obtained from galvanism; and that he has ascertained that these currents possess some peculiar properties, that they may be increased in intensity to an indefinite degree, so that if a discharge from a Leyden jar be sent through a good conductor, a shock may be obtained from a contiguous but perfectly insulated conductor, more intense than one directly from the jar. Professor Henry remarks that he has also found that all conducting substances screen the inductive action, and that he has succeeded in referring this screening process to currents induced for a moment in the interposed body.

Dr. Hare exhibited to the Society fourteen and a half ounces of platinum, fused by his hydro-oxygen blowpipe, and a specimen of pure platinum, freed from iridium by the process of Berzelius.

Dr. Patterson submitted to the Society's inspection the log-book of the steam-ship Savannah, Capt. Moses Rogers, launched at New York on the 22d of August, 1818; from which it appears that, after repeated voyages between New York, Savannah, and Charleston, this vessel left Savannah on the 24th or 25th of May 1819 for Liverpool, saw Land's End on the 17th of June, and arrived at Liverpool on the 20th of June, having used steam thirteen days, and having exhausted her fuel (coal) three days before arrival. It also appears from the log-book that she left Liverpool on the 23d of July, arrived at Elsinour on the 9th of August, left Elsinour on the 14th of August, arrived at Stockholm on the 22d of August, left Stockholm on the 5th of September, arrived at Cronstadt on the 9th of September, and after several excursions between Cronstadt, &c., and Copenhagen, &c., left Arundel, Copenhagen, on the 23d of October, and arrived at Savannah on the 30th of November; that she subsequently arrived at Washington from Savannah on the 16th of December, after a passage of eleven days; that she was sold at Washington in September,

1820, and her engine taken out, after which she sailed as a packet, from New York to Savannah, until September, 1822, when she was lost. This log-book was supposed to derive additional interest from the recent arrival of the Sirius and Great Western, steam-ships, at New York, from England.

Dr. Mitchell repeated before the Society Thilorier's process for solidifying carbonic acid, with an apparatus, made under his direction in Philadelphia, somewhat modified from that employed by Thilorier, and froze a quarter of a pound of mercury by the admixture of the solidified acid with nitrous ether.

Stated Meeting, May 18.

Present, fifteen members.

MR. DU PONCEAU, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

- Transactions of the Geological Society of London. Vol. V. Part I. London, 1838.—*From the Society.*
- A Catalogue of the Circumpolar Stars, deduced from the Observations of Stephen Groombridge. Edited by Sir George B. Airy. London, 1838.—*From the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.*
- Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Part VIII. London, 1837.—*From the Society.*
- American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M. D. No. 43, for May. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Editor.*
- Fables and Phrases in the Seneca Language. 1836.—*From Nathaniel J. Strong, a Seneca Chief.*
- Report of the Directors of the Little Schuylkill and Susquehanna Rail Road Company. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From J. C. Montgomery, Esq.*
- C. Hugonii Aliorumque Seculi XVII Virorum Celebrium Exercitationes Mathematicæ et Philosophicæ. Ex MSS. in Bibliothecâ Academiæ Lugduno-Batavæ servatis editit P. J. Uylenbroek. Fasc. I. & II. Hague, 1833.—*From the Leyden Academy.*